REMARKS

Claims 21-34 are pending in the application, are rejected and are at issue.

By this Amendment, claims 22-34 are amended to refer to "the system". The rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicant traverses the rejection of original claims 21-34, as anticipated by Anand U.S. Patent No. 5,832,946.

Claim 21 specifies a computer-based system for bench-marking of business performance for a high level summary of business results which target scarce business resources at business change over a finite period of time. The system comprises a single screen; means to assimilate static data into the system; means to assimilate balance data into the system via an interviewing procedure; means to provide mapping of and a normalised structure of said static and balance data as a summary report; means to provide an iterative sign-off report; means to produce a separate report for each of a group of high level groupings of a particular node of a business; said separate reports being used during sign-off from the system to provide sign-off sheet categories; drag and drop means whereby to display a normalised structure; and means to trigger bench-mark calculations which check the said reports for mapping changes and which are reviewed by a user of the system, whereby to provide an analysis of a business comprising a relational data base management system and a visual basic front-end.

As defined in the currently amended independent claim 21, the computer-based system is used for bench-marking of business performance for a high level summary of business results which target scarce business resources over a finite period of time, the static data assimilation

is via an interviewing procedure, the final report is provided via an iterative action, the system produces a separate report for each of a particular node of a business and operates using a drag and drop means whereby to display a normalised structure. The separate reports are used during sign off from the system to provide sign off sheet categories. None of these features are disclosed or suggested in Anand.

An anticipation rejection requires that a single prior art reference disclose each element of the claim arranged as in the claim. Anand does not satisfy this requirement. The system defined in claim 1 is a computer base system for bench-marking of business performance for high level summary of business results. These results target scarce business resources as business changes over a finite period of time. Anand is directed to a system which performs an analysis of a computer database.

Anand relates to a system and method for performing intelligent analysis and for generating a report for a user in a retail system. As the Examiner acknowledges in the action, Anand is a complicated system and basically is a system for analyzing a database. This analysis is not a bench-marking system as in claim 21 of the present application. More particularly, Anand uses a three-computer system. Anand does not disclose or suggest the features now recited in independent claim 21. As such, Anand does not anticipate claim 21. More particularly, Anand discloses a system and method for performing intelligent analysis of a computer database using a client computer, a serve computer and a database computer. The database computer executes a database management program. The client computer is coupled with a server computer and executes an application

program which allows a user to define predetermined data types inter alia. This is a complex system requiring three computers.

The present invention comprises a computer system which provides for a user, a relational data base management system and a visual basic front end which is accessed as a single screen carrying all data after respective iterations. Anand does not disclose such a system as claimed, particularly a system including means to trigger bench-mark calculations which check reports for mapping changes and which are reviewed by a user of the system using a single screen, as well as the features now presented in independent claim 21.

With respect to the claim limitation (I) with respect to means to trigger bench-mark calculations, the action references several passages of Anand for such a teaching. These passages reference triggering conditions. However, the relevant limitation of claim 21 not only specifies means to trigger, but more particularly specify exactly what is being triggered. Particularly, the specified means trigger bench-mark calculations which check the reports for mapping changes and which are reviewed by a user of the system to provide an analysis of a business comprising a relational database management system and visual basic front end. The passages in Anand do not discuss triggering bench-mark calculations. Instead, they specify triggering alert messages or the like such as "Alert: the inventory of brand A shirts is below 200.", See col. 3, lines 36-37. Thus, it is improper to merely focus on the word "trigger", while ignoring the more specific limitations as to what is being triggered in the claim.

Thus, while Anand may disclose features which individually correspond to individual limitations of the claimed invention, the system of Anand does not overall function as specified in

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independent claim 21 so that it does not disclose each and every element of claim 21, arranged as in the claim.

Because Anand does not disclose each and every element of claim 21, arranged as in the claim, there is no anticipation.

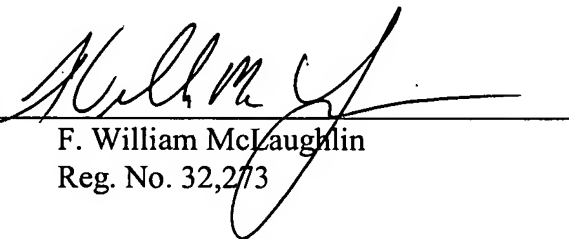Claims 22-34 depend from claim 21 and are likewise not anticipated.

Reconsideration of application and allowance and passage to issue are requested. Moreover, because Anand does not suggest a system such as claimed herein, any obviousness rejection would also be improper.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 30, 2008

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